

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (previously presented): An immunogenic composition formulated for local administration directly to a mucous membrane comprising a recombinant HIV-1 envelope protein comprising a mutated V3 loop, wherein the mutated V3 loop comprises the GPGRAPH (SEQ ID NO: 1) hexamer sequence flanked by the two basal cysteines but lacks all or a portion of the rest of the V3 loop, said recombinant HIV-1 envelope protein being anchored onto preformed liposomes.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 24 further comprising adjuvants.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 25, wherein the adjuvants are derivatives comprising divalent or trivalent ions or muramylpeptide derivatives.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 26, wherein the derivatives comprising divalent or trivalent ions are aluminum hydroxide or calcium phosphate.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 24, wherein the envelope protein is anchored onto unilamellar synthetic lipid vesicles.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 28 wherein the vesicles comprise a molar ratio of phosphatidylcholine to cholesterol of about 8:1, and which have a size of between 70 and 150 nm.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 29, wherein the size of the vesicles is about 90 nm.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 24, wherein the envelope protein is selected from the group consisting of gp160 and gp120 Env proteins.

Claims 32-33 (cancelled).

Claim 34 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 24, wherein the immunogenic composition is formulated for administering rectally or vaginally.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 24, wherein the immunogenic composition comprises at least glycerol or a glycerol/glycerine-based mixture.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 24 further comprising trehalose.